

**What is Claimed is:**

1. An aqueous foamable, antimicrobial liquid cleansing formulation that is dispensed as a foam comprising:

an antimicrobial agent having a phenol moiety; and

5 a foam boosting surfactant wherein the viscosity of the formulation is about 10 centipoise at 24° C.

2. The formulation of claim 1 wherein the antimicrobial agent is selected from the group consisting of triclosan and para-chlorometa-xlenol.

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3. The formulation of claim 1 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is a C<sub>8</sub> – C<sub>18</sub> acylisethionate.

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4. The formulation of claim 3 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is ammonium cocoyl isethionate.

5. The formulation of claim 1 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is between about 5% by weight and about 20% by weight of the formulation.

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6. The formulation of claim 5 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is a C<sub>8</sub> – C<sub>18</sub> acylisethionate.

7. The formulation of claim 6 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is ammonium cocoyl isethionate.

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8. An aqueous, antimicrobial formulation to be dispensed from a foam forming device comprising:

an antimicrobial agent having a phenol moiety; and

a foam boosting surfactant wherein the viscosity of the formulation is low.

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9. The formulation of claim 8 wherein the viscosity of the formulation is less than about 20 centipoise at 24° C.

10. An aqueous, antimicrobial formulation to be dispensed from a foam forming device comprising:

- an antimicrobial agent having a phenol moiety;
- a foam boosting anionic surfactant;
- an anionic surfactant wherein the antimicrobial agent is solubilized;
- a foam building amphoteric surfactant;
- a nonionic surfactant; and
- a non-aqueous solvent wherein the viscosity of the formulation is low.

11. The formulation of claim 10 wherein the antimicrobial agent is selected from the group consisting of triclosan and para-chlorometa-xlenol.

12. The formulation of claim 10 wherein the foam boosting amphoteric surfactant is a C<sub>8</sub> – C<sub>18</sub> acylisethionate.

13. The formulation of claim 12 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is ammonium cocoyl isethionate.

14. The formulation of claim 10 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is between about 5% by weight and about 20% by weight of the formulation.

15. The formulation of claim 14 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is a C<sub>8</sub> – C<sub>18</sub> acylisethionate.

16. The formulation of claim 15 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is ammonium cocoyl isethionate.

17. The formulation of claim 10 wherein the anionic surfactant is between 2% by weight and 12% by weight of the formulation.

18. The formulation of claim 17 wherein the anionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of sulfated alkyl phenol ethoxylates, alkyl-aryl sulfonates, aliphatic sulfonates, and aromatic sulfonates.

5 19. The formulation of claim 10 wherein the foam building surfactant is between 2% by weight and 12% by weight of the formulation.

20. The formulation of claim 19 wherein the foam building surfactant is selected from the group consisting of ammonium fatty sulfo succinates, alkanolamides, and amine oxides.

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21. The formulation of claim 10 wherein the nonionic surfactant is between 1% by weight and 6% by weight of the formulation.

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22. The formulation of claim 21 wherein the nonionic surfactant is selected from a group consisting of oxypropylene and oxyethylene condensates having a molecular weight range between 1000 and 15,000 alkylphenol ethoxylates and primary alcohol ethoxylates.

23. The formulation of claim 10 wherein the non-aqueous solvent is between 1% by weight and 8% by weight of the formulation.

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24. The formulation of claim 23 wherein the non-aqueous solvent is selected from a group consisting of glycols, alcohols, ethyl acetate, acetone, and triacetin.

25. The formulation of claim 10 wherein the viscosity of the formulation is less than about  
25 20 centipoise at 24° C.

26. The formulation of claim 25 wherein the viscosity of the formulation is about 10 centipoise at 24° C.

30 27. A method to foam a solution to be used for hand cleansing comprising the steps:

providing an aqueous solution comprising an antimicrobial agent having a phenol moiety; and a foam boosting surfactant wherein the viscosity of the formulation is about 10 centipoise at 24° C; and

dispensing the solution from a foam-generating dispenser.

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28. The method of claim 27 wherein the antimicrobial agent is selected from the group consisting of triclosan and para-chlorometa-xlenol.

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29. The method of claim 27 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is a C<sub>8</sub> – C<sub>18</sub> acylisethionate.

30. The method of claim 29 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is ammonium cocoyl isethionate.

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31. The method of claim 27 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is between about 5% by weight and about 20% by weight of the formulation.

32. The method of claim 31 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is a C<sub>8</sub> – C<sub>18</sub> acylisethionate.

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33. The method of claim 32 wherein the foam boosting surfactant is ammonium cocoyl isethionate.